

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 22, and 25-32 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 9, 22, and 25 have been amended as further discussed below. New claims 26-32 have been added. The new claims incorporate the subject matter of previously presented claims and do not contain new matter.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 22 and 25 were rejected as being obvious over Abrahamson et al in view of Liu et al. The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 22 and 25 as being obvious over Abrahamson et al in view of Rogers et al.

The Examiner indicated that claims 17, 20, 23, and 24 contain allowable subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner states that these claims are allowable over prior art because the art neither teaches nor suggests the administration of VEGF and Vitamin A to metanephric tissue at the time of or after being transplanted into the recipient. In the interest of expediting prosecution, the limitations of claims 17, 20, 23 and 24 have been incorporated into independent pending claims 1, 7, 22, and new claims 26-32. Some of the claims have been rewritten to correct for awkward claim construction.

Because the art does not teach or suggest administration of VEGF or Vitamin A to metanephric tissue at the time of or after being transplanted into the recipient, the claims as amended are free from the cited art. Accordingly, Applicant request withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and an early notification of such is solicited.

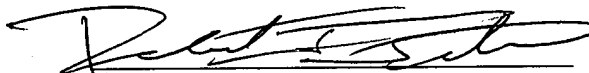
Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 20, 2005

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Filed Under 37 CFR § 1.34
Customer No. 32940